AUSTIN360

NO SOUTH BY SOUTHWEST? NO SWEAT

Bands keep rocking, and Austin still has plenty to offer visitors and residents

BUSINESS | B6

TEXAS GAS PRICES CHEAPEST IN OVER A YEAR

Average price for a gallon of gas in the Austin area has fallen 10 cents in a week

Austin American-Statesman

Friday, March 13, 2020 statesman.com | @statesman | Facebook.com/statesman | $2

MARCH SADNESS

Rodeo Austin joins list of local events canceled over virus concerns, **A4**

Only Texans will continue to be quarantined at San Antonio base, **A4**

WGC-Dell Match Play to proceed but without fans in attendance, **C1**

A trader uses a hand sanitizer dispenser on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange on Thursday as the coronavirus crisis sent stocks into another slide, triggering a brief, automatic shutdown in trading for the second time this week. [RICHARD DREW/ASSOCIATED PRESS]

Local hospitals screen, limit visitors; Austin indefinitely extends its disaster declaration

By Kelsey Bradshaw
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As both public and private entities in Central Texas work to combat the new coronavirus pandemic, hospitals have started limiting who can enter their facilities and the city of Austin approved an indefinite extension of its disaster declaration.

Ascension Seton, one of the region's largest hospital networks, is temporarily adding visitor restrictions at its 12 hospitals and more than 100 clinics in Central Texas, a statement from Ascension Seton says.

St. David's HealthCare has begun to verbally screen patients and visitors with a three-question survey.

In Seton hospitals and clinics, patient visits are being limited to two visitors per patient at any given time and visits by children younger than 14 will be up to the discretion of patients and those involved in their care.

See VIRUS, A4

Dow has worst day since '87

S&P 500 enters bear market as the coronavirus spreads economic gloom

By Jessica Menton and Nathan Bomey
USA TODAY

The bad news just got worse on Wall Street on Thursday.

Propelled by fears of the coronavirus, stock losses steepened. The Standard & Poor's 500 entered a bear market for the first time since the financial crisis and the Dow endured its biggest one-day percentage drop since the 1987 crash.

Adding to the sense of anxiety was the Fed, which only briefly slowed the market's slide when it injected trillions of dollars into the financial system.

The S&P 500 dropped 9.5% to close at 2,480.64, the day after President Donald Trump banned travel from Europe to stem the economic fallout from the virus. A series of distressing headlines followed late Wednesday and Thursday.

See MARKETS, A4

Inside

Consumers pull back amid virus outbreak, **B6**

Workers dismantle a fan area for the Big 12 Conference men's basketball tournament in front of the Sprint Center on Thursday in Kansas City, Mo., after the remaining games in the tournament were canceled due to coronavirus concerns. [CHARLIE RIEDEL/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS]

UT's season ends as NCAA calls off March Madness

By Brian Davis
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KANSAS CITY, Mo. — March Madness is over because of the new coronavirus.

Less than an hour before tipoff Thursday, University of Texas athletic director Chris Del Conte called Shaka Smart, who was in the Sprint Center locker room. The Longhorns' coach then gave his lieutenant Cody Hatt unmistakable instructions: Get our players off the court. The same scenario played out in Texas Tech's locker room, too.

So with about 45 minutes remaining on the pregame clock, the Longhorns and Red Raiders both scurried off as league officials canceled the Big 12 tournament.

By midafternoon, the college basketball season was officially over, too. In an unprecedented move, the NCAA announced it was canceling the annual NCAA Tournament as well as all remaining winter and spring championships.

NCAA President Mark Emmert came under scrutiny for delaying a decision that would ultimately rock the American sports world.

See NCAA, A5

More inside

Herman: Traveling in the time of coronavirus, **B1**

UT adapts amid virus worries

University joins growing number of colleges extending spring break, moving online

By Lara Korte
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As hundreds of universities around the country take steps to mitigate the spread of the new coronavirus, the University of Texas announced Wednesday night it would extend spring break by an extra week to give faculty and staff time to transition many courses online and prepare for other social distancing practices.

The school also canceled all study abroad programs through the summer, as well as events at the Frank Erwin Center and the Bass Concert Hall for the next two weeks.

See UT, A5

Inside

How Texas colleges are dealing with the virus, **A5**

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TODAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Mostly cloudy	*Showers poss*	*Showers poss*
78° / 66°	*80° / 66°*	*79° / 65°*